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BINGE O' FRINGE

"ASSEMBLY BUTT" ELUDES THE MARTLET'S SCOTT ROBERTS AFTER A FRINGE-A-THON

SEE PAGE 6

photo by Nicole Staebell

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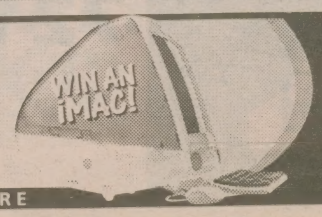

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Project not so sustainable

By Sarah Glen

Two UVic students admit they might have been a little naive when dealing with the provincial government.

The students, who had received full-time funding this summer to start a project aimed at making the campus more environmentally sustainable, won't be getting any more money to finish the project from the Ministry of Environment.

The ministry denied the 12-week-old UVic Sustainability Project (UVSP) funding for a second and third term grant through the Environmental Youth Team, even though UVSP's two full-time coordinators, Lynsay Cole and Alex Blais, had submitted a comprehensive financial report outlining their year-long funding needs for the project.

We can't figure it out. We gave them the outline and didn't hold anything back. I guess we were a little naive.

"We can't figure it out. We gave them the outline and didn't hold anything back. I guess we were a little naive," said Cole, adding that they would have gone without funding over the summer if they had known they only had a limited amount of money to work with.

The loss of $27,200 has left Cole and Blais scrambling to find alternate funding sources.

"We're looking at other foundations, but it's hard to find funding for two full-time coordinators," said Cole who has been volunteering full time for the project since the first term grant dried up on August 16th.

"It's hard, I need to work to pay rent, but I also want to see this project through to the end," she said.

UVSP needs eight more months of funding (from September 1999 to April 2000) to complete UVic sustainability audits, which would examine campus life from transportation to waste and energy use. The information the group gathers would then be used to draft a policy on campus sustainable development that would be presented to the university's senate.

But with government spending being slashed from programs such as the Environment Youth Team there just wasn't enough money to go around, said Dave Galbarith, manager of the Environment Youth Team.

"In the second round of application, there were $7 million worth of projects across B.C. and we can't afford to fund them all, so a lot of good projects, like the UVSP, don't get funded," said Galbarith.

Without the funding for the coordinators, the project is left with 13 work-study funded positions but no supervisors. So several smaller organizations, such as the Student and Ancillary Services and the UVic Student Society have continued to fund the floundering project.

"It's fallen on this department to see this [UVSP] through to the conclusion, and we're prepared to do that," said David Clode, executive director of Student and Ancillary Services.

Saanich firefighters put out a blaze last Wednesday afternoon at the Saunders Building. Although the cause of the fire is still under investigation, a roofer was using a blowtorch just above the paint shop room and garbage bin that were damaged by the flames. There were no injuries.

Martlet photo by Eric Ricco Hodgin

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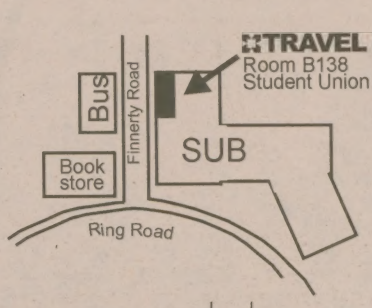

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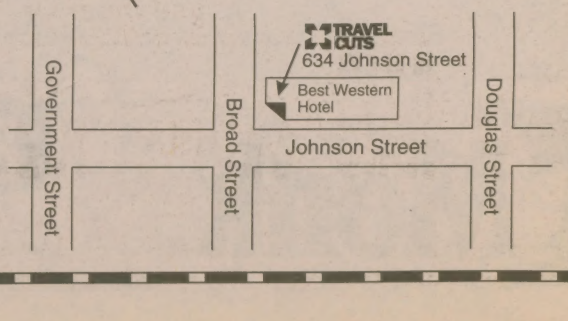

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Strike could close campus this month

BY PATTI EDGAR

The university and its support staff are trying to avoid a campus-wide strike which could keep students from their classrooms.

Two Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) locals have been in separate contract negotiations with the University of Victoria since the end of January. With one local having already cast a favourable strike vote and another facing "impediments" during contract talks, local union presidents are warning students a strike may take place this month.

There are about 1,000 UVic employees–from child care workers to groundskeepers–who could walk off the job if the renegotiation of two contracts, that expired March 31, break down. Sympathizers such as the Professional Employees Association and CUPE Local 4163 (which represents teachers' assistants and sessionals) have already announced they won't cross picket lines.

At the same time, a similar scenario could play out at British Columbia's three other universities where CUPE support staff are also in faltering contract negotiations with their employers.

But both the University of Victoria and local union presidents say they are trying to keep students at their desks by keeping negotiations at the bargaining table.

"We definitely have an open mind and are prepared to bargain. A strike is just one of those places you come to when you have no choice," said Rhonda Rose, president of CUPE Local 917, whose 400 members–including janitorial, food service and trades workers–cast a vote in favour of strike action in June.

These workers are the backbone of the university. If there isn't support for them students won't get the kind of services they need.

Bruce Kilpatrick, director of UVic's Communications Services, said the university is hopeful the situation will be resolved through the bargaining process.

In the upcoming weeks, CUPE Local 917 members will be facing the university in two days of contract negotiations with the help of mediator Grant McArthur.

And from Monday, Aug. 30 until Wednesday, Sept. 1, CUPE Local 951 members–which represent office, technical, and child care workers on campus–were also in contract talks and planned to consider mediation and a strike vote this week.

Both local unions–like their counterparts at Simon Fraser University, the University of British Columbia and the University of Northern British Columbia–are asking for increased wages and benefits.

But with B.C.'s Public Sector Employers Council setting wage increases at 0-0-2 (zero per cent over the first year, zero per cent over the second year, and two per cent over the third year), the focus is on benefits and the creation of a better "social safety net" for members, said Rose.

Both UVic's CUPE Local 917 and 951 members would like to see the university pay for medical coverage, improve dental coverage, increase pensions and start a long-term disability plan.

But job security is CUPE Local 917's top priority, said Rose.

"There's a slow erosion of our bargaining unit. Little jobs get contracted out and our members go to part-time."

CUPE Local 951 members, whose 600 members are mostly women, are focusing on pay-equity for female workers.

"Women's wages at UVic should be brought up to the level of male wages at UVic. Senior secretaries deserve to be paid the same as trades workers or administrative assistants," said CUPE Local 951 president Doug Sprenger.

Morgan Stewart, chair of the University of Victoria's Students Society, said the UVSS would support a strike by closing the Student Union Building.

"These workers are the backbone of the university. If there isn't support [from the university] for them to do good work, students won't get the kind of services they need."

on the spot

What are three atypical school supplies you can't live without?

Jin An
3rd Year Commerce

"Music–heavy metal, cigarettes, and the internet"

Nicole Staebell
4th Year Visual Arts honours

"Without a doubt, antacid, Aspirin, and Agfa. I need four really–what about beer?"

Elise Mitchell
2nd Year Grad Student French

"I love those little sticky tabs, yellow lined pads from the department office..oh yeah and those trashy bodice rippers-Harlequin romance novels for when your brain gets too full"

Alex Licker
2nd Year History

"Coffee, cigarettes, and internet"

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Cops lied during standoff

By Krishna Lalbiharie

WINNIPEG (CUP) - The Canadian military and RCMP falsified documents during the Gustafsen Lake conflict to justify a police raid, says an aboriginal activist who is writing a book on the event.

The 1995 standoff, which took place in northern British Columbia, ended in an armed fight between natives and police. The $5.5-million campaign was the most expensive domestic military operation in Canada's history.

Four hundred RCMP officers armed with M-16 assault rifles, land mines and eight armoured personnel carriers fired 77,000 rounds of ammunition at a camp of 18 aboriginal sovereigntists.

The camped group was demanding the right to continue hosting the Sundance ceremony at Ts'Peten, or Gustafsen Lake.

"The government would have you believe that in our efforts to protect our sacred Sundance lands, we were the ones who used too much force and not the RCMP," said native activist John 'Splitting the Sky' Hill.

"The truth is that the government, and its tool the mainstream media, collaborated to manufacture a story which isn't true."

Hill, a Mohawk nationalist, is currently writing a memoir of his involvement in the Gustafsen standoff.

The book states that principal evidence attained by the RCMP, which was used to convict some of those involved in the conflict, were falsified to win government support for the eventual police raid.

"The RCMP, at the time, said that the Ts'Peten defenders ambushed, shot and hit two of its officers, but the evidence for this isn't there and is not true," said Hill.

He added the officers in question sustained no visible marks of penetration on their flak jackets and were unable to provide evidence that bullets had been fired.

"The manufacturer of the flak jackets has gone on record as saying that those jackets aren't designed to take hits from high-powered rifles, which is what the RCMP said the defenders were using when the officers were shot," said Hill. "I think if they were shot, there would be signs to indicate this. It obviously doesn't add up."

Hill further asserts that RCMP footage, which ostensibly recorded all events in the besieged encampment, failed to produce footage of the alleged attack.

Moreover, portions of footage appear to be "conveniently blacked-out or missing at critical moments during the incursion."

But according to then presiding trial Justice, I. B. Josephson, Hill's allegations are unfounded.

"When rhetoric is swept aside, it was the camp occupants who introduced weapons and violence to the standoff," said Josephson. "Hill, himself, is lucky to not have been indicted and convicted as the others were."

Hill averted indictment for his involvement in the 1995 standoff after testimony from reliable witnesses proved that his participation in events was non-threatening.

Thirteen of the 18 Ts'Peten defendants were sentenced to prison on July 30, 1997. Sentences ranged from six months to four-and-a-half years, for crimes of sedition and attempted murder of police and military personnel.

Although not available for comment, B.C. Attorney General Ujjal Dosanjh stated to the *Globe and Mail* at sentencing hearings in 1997 that "while [he] respects Native rights, the Ts'Peten defenders were terrorists and nothing more."

Hill disagrees.

"My brothers and sisters are not terrorists, but victims of a conspiracy to cover up the truth," he said. "If they can get away with what they did to us at Gustafsen Lake it won't be long before they can do it to everyone."

The Autobiography of Splitting the Sky: From Attica to Gustafsen Lake, is scheduled for release in 2000.

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BRITISH COLUMBIA
Ministry of Advanced Education, Training and Technology

Yugoslavian student receives surprise cash

By Sarah Glen

When war erupted in her Serbian homeland, UVic student Marija Stojkovic feared her dream of completing an honours biology degree in Canada was over.

A currency embargo on the ravaged country blocked her parents from sending money to Victoria for her education, and because of the war she couldn't go home.

"I had no money to support myself. I really didn't know what I was going to do," said Stojkovic, who had just finished her third year.

That's when the University of Victoria Student Society and Director of Services, Chris Moon, stepped in with the promise of a $10,000 bursary.

"Marija [Stojkovic] came to see us and she was in a pretty desperate situation. If she didn't get help she would have had to quit school," said Moon.

Three years ago, the UVSS board decided that 50 cents off every student's UVSS fees would go towards a bursary for international students, who pay more than $7,000 a year in tuition.

But even though the bursary's purse was bulging with the accumulated funds, the guidelines for handing-out a yearly bursary hadn't been set.

"We had so much money piling up and a student that needed help, so we decided to allocate the money to her," said Moon.

As Stojkovic anxiously waited for UVSS approval, she landed a summer job as a full-time biology research assistant.

"Getting a job on campus was pretty lucky because being an international student I can only work on campus–I got a break to help me through the summer," said Stojkovic.

But as the summer neared to an end, Stojkovic was still uncertain about her future.

"I wasn't sure what I was going to do right up until last week," said Stojkovic.

On Aug. 23 the UVSS board voted to award Stojkovic the one-time, emergency bursary.

"This $10,000 has saved my life. I feel privileged to be able to continue to experience Western culture," said Stojkovic.

Stojkovic plans to use the majority of the bursary to pay the international student tuition fee. She says she'll have to continue her job as a biology research assistant part-time throughout the school year to pay for her living expenses.

"Ten thousand dollars may seem like a lot, but I'm barely going to make it. It's going to be a tight fit," said Stojkovic.

After she graduates this April, Stojkovic plans to seek landed immigrant status in Canada.

"The economy in my country hasn't been good for 10 years, and there is no future for people who graduate from university. There just aren't any jobs," said Stojkovic.

But that doesn't mean she wants to cut her ties to her homeland.

"I'm a pioneer in my family," said Stojkovic, who was the first in her family to study abroad. "But I still miss them a lot. Hopefully I'll go back next May–but just for a visit."

Study to focus on health of sex-trade workers

By Sarah Glen

Head colds, pulled muscles, anorexia, sore throats.

These aren't the kind of health problems most people would associate with sex-trade workers, but these are just the sort of aliments the University of Victoria's Sociology Department's Dr. Cecilia Benoit is researching in a two-year project.

Benoit, in partnership with the Prostitution Empowerment and Education Society of Victoria (PEERS), is studying the "hidden" health problems of Victoria's sex-trade workers.

Ex-sex trade workers will be interviewing 100 prostitutes this fall for a report for health and social service agencies in British Columbia.

"Many of these women are living in poverty. They're an oppressed group in society and they need proper nutrition and housing," said Anne, a Victoria street nurse who prefers to only use her first name.

Because 80 to 90 per cent of all prostitution takes place in off-street venues such as hotels, escort services and private residences, Judy Lightwater, project manager of PEERS, says it's crucial former sex-trade workers with connections inside the industry conduct the interviews.

"I have a lot of contacts," said a former sex-trade worker and PEERS research assistant who spent 11 years off-and-on as a prostitute and wishes to remain anonymous.

"The study is greatly needed. A lot of girls are inside [working in off-the-street venues] and isolated. This project puts these issues in the public eye," she said.

The study, which will be completed in the spring of 2001, is the first of its kind.

Organizers hope it will help break down assumptions about the industry and convince policy makers to tailor the kinds of programs they offer prostitutes to their needs.

"There's a lot of stigmas in our society. This study hopefully will help policy makers make changes, for example starting a women's health clinic," said Lightwater.

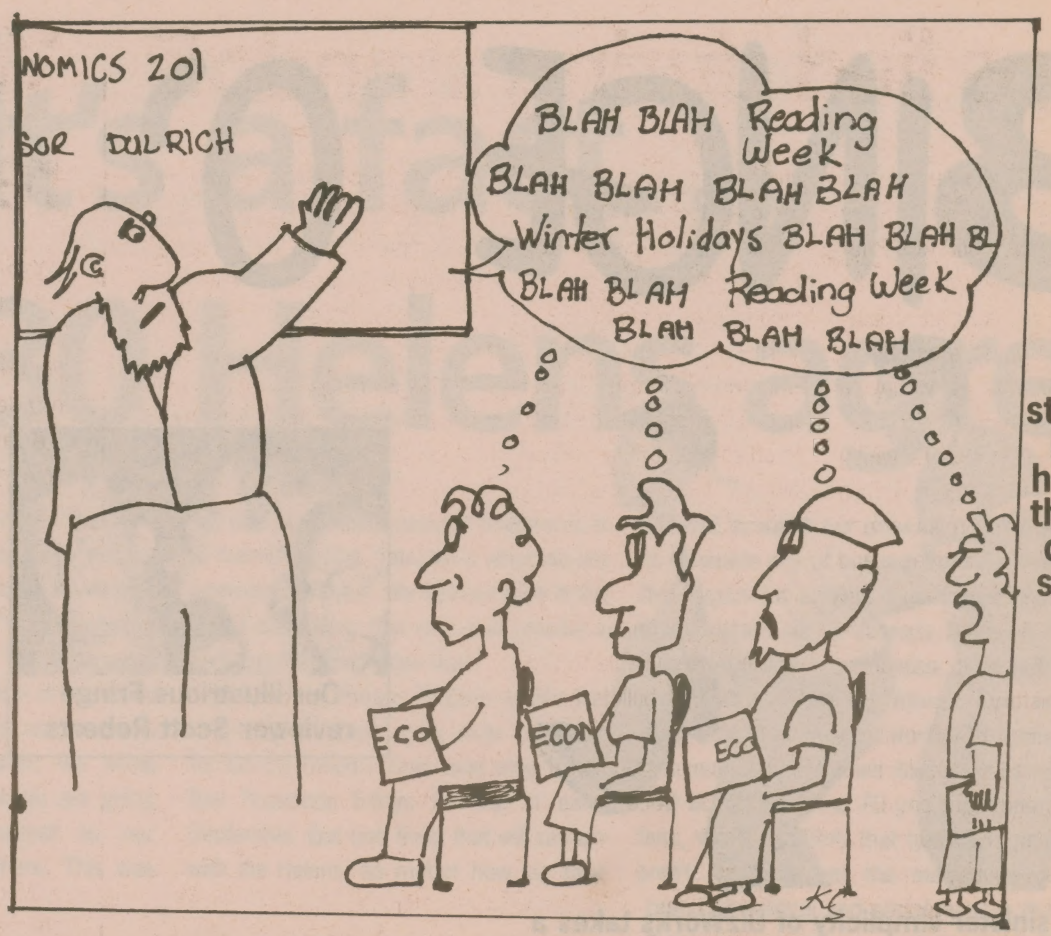
But the study will also benefit local sex-trade workers, who normally work in isolation from one another. With the completion of the study, sex-trade workers will have information on the working conditions in most of Victoria's off-street venues.

"This project may not only lead to other kinds of research, but will give sex-trade workers an available, complete information package on health conditions in their trade," said Benoit.

editorial

Things We Don't Want to See Next Year on Campus

- Susan Musgrave interrupting writing seminars to grant in-depth interviews to CHEK TV.
- Cargo pants and Gilligan hats.
- Stupid drunkin' wanna be frat boys/sorority sisters doing stupid shit.
- Pot ranching sociology profs hiring students for the fall harvest.
- Better weather for the UVic's Student Society corn fest.
- Anti-racism campaign posters floating in the Petch Fountain.
- Dogs left tied up on campus for hours and hours.
- South Park.
- Student politician/ New Democrat Party butt kissing.
- Honorary degrees ear-marked for dictators.
- Discussions about Blizzard '96.
- Higher student fees.
- The same broken machines in the Visual Arts building still broken.
- More movies about asteroids hitting the earth/ twenty-somethings jailed for drugs in Asian countries/ time displaced swingers.
- Campus-wide exclusivity deals with multi-national corporations.
- Homophobes tearing down the queer groups posters on campus.
- Spirit of the West.
- The SUB continue to look more and more like William Head prison.
- More essential on-campus services closing.
- Classrooms named after the figure heads of multi-national corporations.
- More reviews of Velvet
- A tuition fee hikin', corporate sponsorship lovin', union stompin' university president.



What students really hear on the first day of school.

READ THIS BOOK

Re: Max Dempsters column in July 22 issue.

Shawnnah Farkas, the Women's Centre coordinator may find the chapter titled "Our Address in the Universe" in a book by George Greenstein titled "Portrait's of Discovery, profiles in Scientific Genius" of interest to her centre.

Despite the chapter title and its start Greenstein takes off into a very informative and frankly disturbing discourse on the difficulties women still face re entry into the world of the "hard sciences" (i.e. math-based). The book is published by John Wiley and Sons ISBN 0-471-19138-8 and the Victoria library has it catalogue number 3-9066-01356426-1.

Brings back memories of reading a question by a playboy centerfold I read (when I was about 13). "Why is it that in so-called equal partnership it's always the woman who's expected to clean the toilet bowl?" Good Question! (And it set it up so my ex never did have to). Good paper!

Chara'qi, The-Cherokee-Medicine-Man, The-Cherokee-Catman-Dude (Robert C. Anderson, Cherokee Nation Reg# 00202441)

WHY THE DOUBLE STANDARD?

I just want to say that I am sick and tired of female standards.

"Ooh I need a man to be strong and gentle, well-endowed. wealthy and deep and smart and funny and athletic." you get the picture.

Here's the thing: I'm single. And I don't get it for a second. So I don't have pecs of steel, high cheek-bones, height, or a winning personality... so fucking what? What's perfection these days anyway? It's greeting card bullshit, that's what.

What chicks don't get is that they need a man (or woman, let's be fair) with a lot of knowledge on hockey. That's right, hockey. Think about it: Wayne Gretzky stats could save your life one day. Y2K is coming, how many career goals did Gretzky score? You may already be dead.

Thomas Sanderson

the martlet
"flying without feet for 51 years"

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BINGE O' FRINGE

The sinister simplicity of BizWorks takes a physical comedy turn.

Martlet photo by Nicole Staebell

Our illustrious Fringe reviewer Scott Roberts

Members of the 30 Helens in *Highway to Helen*.

Martlet photo by Nicole Staebell

BY SCOTT ROBERTS

Shit. Sixteen shows in four days. That was my goal. Twenty eight hours and 25 minutes spent on those chairs we all used to sit on during junior high assemblies. You remember the ones–the thin tough wood, the long thin metal legs.

They're deceivingly comfortable at first.

You slide into them. "Ooh, nice contour" one might think. But, then after 45 minutes, you realize there is no give, no way to change position. There you are helpless, uncomfortable, and forced to listen to the droning vice-principal carry on about littering and where you can and cannot smoke.

Fortunately at the Fringe there is no vice-principal, and very little droning.

After a careful scan of the Fringe schedule, I mapped out a timetable for myself. Then I raced to my first show–*Stop the Relationship, I want to Get Off*–only to be turned away because I didn't have my driver's license on me and it was being shown in a bar. My evening was shot.

Shit. Fifteen shows in two and one half days.

The next day I brought my driver's license to *The Night that Larry Kramer Kissed Me*, but didn't need it.

This one-man performance by actor Joseph Davies was a comical, but moving show depicting gay life in the 1980s and 90s. He takes the audience from coming out to his family, to the final heart-wrenching scene that is a memorial to many friends lost to AIDS.

That afternoon I hit show number two–The 30 Helens' *Highway to Helen*. They're certainly one of the funniest groups at the Fringe, deserving of their own review (see story on the next page).

The next day I inhaled the heavy aroma of *Weed*. Weed, California that is.

It is a strange and somewhat disturbing tale of three friends on their way back from a bachelor party in Reno. They stop off in Weed, California, and everything starts to go wrong.

Unfortunately for the cast the use of allusion and foreshadowing was lost on the audience. So look for it. It's certainly not hard to find. If, at the end of the show, you find yourself whining "Is that it?" then you don't know the meaning of allusion–like the women in the front row of the Sunday show.

Next on my timetable was *Sunshine, Lollipops, and Rainbows*. A religious satire by a group of actors from Victoria High School, based on the idea that God comes to earth and lives on the lower East Side in a dodgy rat-infested building. Oh, and Satan is the slumlord. A very impressive first show for these young actors.

The last show I managed to squeeze in was BizWorks. An interesting look into the minds of two best friends who are both 23, unhappy with life, and find its daily annoyances almost unbearable. The two characters were nearly polar opposites. Graham Vogt's character was a likable slacker, although he certainly had much more depth than that. Vogt's charisma on stage was unbelievable, but I found myself really drawn to his partner Dave Bachus' character. He was much darker, albeit a lot more simple-minded, but he had this strange evil to him- much like Aaron Eckhart's character Chad in the movie *In The Company Of Men*. A sinister simplicity.

Four days came to an end and despite my single-minded dedication to the task of seeing as many Fringe shows as I could, I only managed to see five.

So I've remade my timetable-penciled in the 10 or so shows I didn't make it to last week with a goal of seeing them next week.

Four days at the Fringe left me complacent, ready to sit in any Fringe-designated folding chair for another seven hours and 28 minutes, to absorb whatever the beast that is Fringe has to offer me. And come to think about it, in four days of Fringe I wasn't even uncomfortable. Some of the venues actually had good chairs.

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VICTORIA SYMPHONY

Martlet photo by Nicole Staebell

It's a fact... 30 Helens agree

BY SCOTT ROBERTS

First there was Girl Parts. Then came the 30 Helens. And the world welcomed them with open arms.

Girl Parts started two and a half years ago as a collaboration of actors from Vancouver who were tired of the lack of roles available for women. After about a year and a half of success seven women split from the group and formed the 30 Helens. This all-female sketch comedy troupe began to take the City of Vancouver by storm. One year after their inception the 30 Helens have become the biggest comedy sensation to hit Vancouver in quite some time. Their main venue is Jupiter Cafe, located at Bute and Davie, where they have been packing the house for months. Even with the 200 person capacity at Jupiter they have been turning people away at every show for a while. But don't go looking for them there. They have already outgrown that space.

"For the last couple of months the shows have been standing room only. The waiters can'[]t even move around, we had to go somewhere else," said Morgan Brayton, one of the 30 Helens. Where they went is on the road. Their first stop was here in Victoria.

Judging by how well they performed and the audience's response, you wouldn't know that this was their first show away from home. "We were kinda nervous for the first show at Victoria Fringe" said Brayton, "I mean we've always had some of the same faces at our shows in Vancouver, we know how people are going to respond to our show there. This was the first time we've played somewhere else, and it was great." Nobody's questioning that. This troupe's humour is so dead-on it's hard to believe that they haven't seen much more exposure. "We have been approached by many people who want to hop on the Helen bandwagon, you know, I've got this producer and this director and we want to do this with your group" explained Brayton, "but we've always done everything ourselves, all the producing, writing, directing. You know, that's who we are."

Whenever we believe that the audience is thinking, 'Oh they won't do that,' we know that we must.

The formula certainly works. There have been a lot of good things said about the 30 Helens, but one of the most popular references is to Kids in the Hall. "We love it when we are compared to them. We idolized Kids in the Hall. I don't think that we could receive a bigger compliment than that."

The Victoria Fringe Festival marks the beginning of some really wide exposure for the 30 Helens. Their next stop is the San Francisco Fringe Festival in early September. But one thing that will remain with the Helens, no matter how big they get, is their memory of where they come from. "We want to keep our shows cheap, you know. Eight or nine bucks, like the price of a gig," said Brayton, "and we want to keep the venues accessible. We couldn't ever play at the McPherson or something like that. I mean you're not gonna see east van punker dykes coming out to the Queen E to watch our show. We don't want to dissuade any of our real fan base." It's this Fugazi-like attitude that makes these women stand out so strongly. And what is going to make them famous. "We aren't doing this to make big money. Sure we don't want to do this and work our full time jobs much longer but we don't want to sell $40 tickets because 70 year old theatre fans, who can afford that type of money, aren't going to get the material." The brand of political and social humour that these seven women produce is really unlike anything I've ever seen live, or for that matter, anywhere else. There is one thing that I should make exceedingly clear though. This show is funny to everybody. The humour is neither so social nor so political that most people won't get it. The only thing that a general audience might not understand is why they push the envelope as far as they do. "Whenever we believe that the audience is thinking, 'Oh they won't do that,' we know that we must." It's this type of attitude that keeps the Helens honest and true and it makes the shows just a little funnier. Not that they need any help.

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Search for a soulmate with the love goddess

The Goddess' Guide to Love
Written by Margie Lapanja

BY JESSICA WEIRMIER

I wouldn't know Love if it swept me off my feet and did the nasty to me in the gently lapping waves of a tropical beach.

So why, you ask, would I choose to review Margie Lapanja's book *The Goddess' Guide to Love?*

I'm still not entirely sure. Lapanja's *Goddess' Guide* is a new-age, crystals and candles, aroma-therapeutic foray into the realm of love. Don't read it unless you are well-armed with extra-strength incense, jasmine tea and Loreena McKennitt playing softly in the background.

Goddess' Guide will teach you the essentials of Moon Love. This is important because "when planning, playing and loving, it is wise to stay in tune with the moon." For example, when the moon is in Scorpio, "your need for privacy and sex are intensified by a very emotional and determined imagination as psychic abilities are enhanced."

Lapanja believes in self-affirmations; every morning when you wake up, she suggests announcing, "I am a radiating center of divine love. Love is moving through my cells like sunlight through a prism." Throughout the book, Lapanja offers various recipes that are meant to incite the "penile blood flow" of any woman's intended. (Every woman, of course, understands the important role food plays in attracting men). You will find recipes for Midwinter Springerle, Brigid's Cinnamon Buns, Jalapeno Applesauce, Ambrosia, Lady Godiva's Chocolate Seduction Cake, Calico Scallop Crepes with Vanilla Sauce, Key Lime Luna Pie, Lady Margaret's Baked Potato Soup, and Kitty's Classic Carrot Cake.

The book does offer sensible advice for woman seeking love. You'll find it if you're patient enough to wade through her new-ageisms. She advises women to allow their mates the freedom to pursue personal interests and goals as long as "he reciprocates in this dance of respect." And of course, a Goddess "always practices safe sex–using condoms unfailingly–when sampling the sexual universe."

My favourite part of the book is her Soulmate Spell. On a sheet of white virgin paper you write your 'list' in purple ink. The spell is a list of qualities you desire in a mate. Write them in a positive sense, there is no room for negativity here. Out of curiosity–and to serve as an example–I've decided to write my own Soulmate Spell:

He breathes oxygen...He loves small, fluffy creatures...He bathes regularly...He makes a wicked margarita...He's only been arrested once or twice...He appreciates a little insanity...He's a former porn star...He thinks tall women with small breasts are sexy...He believes in the theory that humans are a result of monkey-alien copulation...He knows what a Jesus Touchdown is...He can change a car tire and unplug clogged drains...He has a Costco membership...

You get the idea. After writing the list, fold it by turning the top of the paper toward you, then turn it clockwise and fold it again, and then fold it one more more time. The next step is crucial: sprinkle the paper with anise or cinnamon oil, kiss it and "put it where sunlight and moonlight can energize it." Finish the spell by announcing aloud, "so it shall be–or better!"

I can hardly wait for this week's issue of *The Martlet* to be published! Wish me luck on my Soulmate Spell. And buy Lapanja's *Goddess' Guide to Love* if you're looking for a good laugh.

Believable old badass sounds like bar brawls

Cheating at Solitaire
Mike Ness
Time Bomb Recordings
1999

BY ADRIENNE MERCER

When Mike Ness is old and grey, he'll still be punk rock, but all the same, he's (more than) a little bit country.

Now nearing 40, the guy from Orange County has been dishing out attitude since he began fronting his one-time garage band, Social Distortion, at age 17.

Cheating at Solitaire is a gritty, passionate exploration of the music and techniques of artists who have influenced Ness since his early days. (Think Johnny Cash, Woody Guthrie, CCR).

Listening to it can easily make a good girl go bad. If you're playing the cd on a road trip, it won't be long until you feel like a gunslinger or a train robber.

A strong supporter of the working class, Ness writes lyrics as solid as a strong foothold. From the first lines of "The Devil in Miss Jones" to the dying strains of "Send her Back," the songs on this cd are both menacing and honest.

Cheating at Solitaire is a testament to the liner note quote, "All Mike Ness remembers as a boy is that his role models were not presidents and athletes, they were gangsters and junkie guitar players."

There isn't a bad song on this disc, but there are several standouts. The punk-and-heartfelt version of Bob Dylan's "Don't Think Twice," the collaboration with Bruce Springsteen on "Misery Loves Company" ("Ball and Chain" meets "Born In The USA") and the haunting version of "Long Black Veil" (is it possible for a song with this title not to be haunting?) are all worth special mention.

Intriguing, too, is the surprisingly tender "The Rest Of Our Lives" ("Eighteen years in a traveling band/seen a lot of one-night stands/And still I found myself so very much alone").

Last spring, Ness toured to promote *Cheating at Solitaire*, and added a list of songs by Johnny Cash, Buck Owens, The Carter Family and Hank Williams to his repertoire. The experience prompted him to start recording as soon as he finished the tour. A new cd, *Under The Influences*, is currently in the works.

Live on the *Cheating at Solitaire* tour, Ness was known to play a kick-ass version of "I Fought the Law." It makes sense. Like bad government makes for revolution, a fighting spirit makes for authentic, believable music.

Though there's more country twang in *Cheating at Solitaire* than in the average Social Distortion collection, it's tough to stop listening to this disc once you've started. Luckily, *Under The Influences* promises to be more of the same. Ness is a believable badass who has perfected the sound of bar brawls and dusty highways, legends and legacies.

Former Martlet editor Adrienne Mercer is our Nakusp correspondant–a town where she has learned what bar brawls really sound like.

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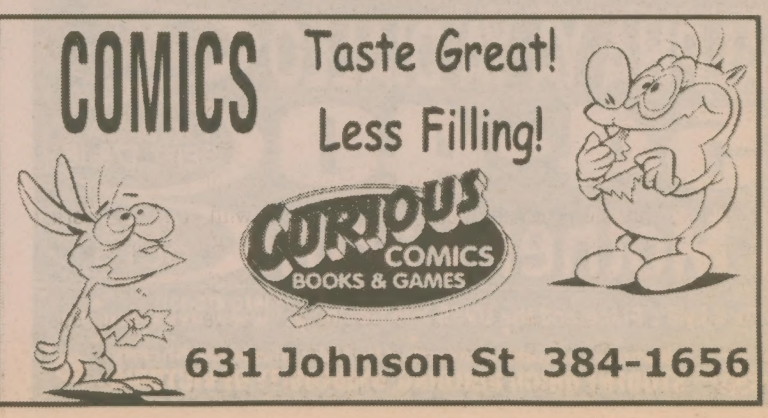

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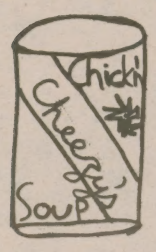
Vegetarians may enjoy *Chicken Soup's* grab for college bucks



Chicken Soup for the College Soul
Health Communications

BY JULIET RICE

Chicken Soup for the College Soul is exactly what you would think it would be if you are familiar with the plethora of other *Chicken Soup* books. If you live under a rock or do not frequent bookstores, the *Chicken Soup for the Soul* books are written for people who may be experiencing some sort of adversity. These books offer stories, both humorous and inspirational, for the adversity to read and take comfort in; hence the title *Chicken Soup for the Soul*. This particular book is one for people who are heading off to college or university for the first time.

Perhaps I am a bit jaded, having been in post-secondary for more than a year, but at first I couldn't understand why people might be frightened and need to seek solace in a book such as this one. Then, as I read, I started to remember how I felt when I started post-secondary and suddenly this whole chicken-soup-book-concept did not seem so unreasonable. Indeed, was it only recently that I was worried I would really do poorly at college? It is more recent than I would care to admit. I felt myself become a bit more understanding towards those who might have traveled a long ways to attend school and might really benefit from such a book.

I was split on how I felt about these stories. I am usually not fond of inspirational stories of overcoming insurmountable odds and the strength of the human spirit. This book did not change that feeling. I felt that the inspirational stories did not leave me inspired, more like I wished I had read something else. Many people I know often feel that if they for some reason feel like they can't accomplish anything, reading something like these stories will help. More power to them.

I did however enjoy the humorous stories. These stories I found to be uplifting and had I been a new student away from home to attend college, these stories would have brought laughter, which is half the battle when adapting to a new situation. Yes, this book did make me laugh. I refuse to say whether or not it was out loud.

I would have to say that the book is more inspirational than funny. A friend of mine, who is an English as a second language student attending university in a foreign city for the first time read some of the book and liked it. He said that he found it a bit comforting to know that other people have experienced the sort of things that he is now experiencing. So, if you would take comfort in this, then *Chicken Soup for the College Soul* is for you. If you are jaded like me, you might want to skim through it and make sure that you want to be inspired before buying it.

The Buttless Chaps play Thursday's after returning from a successful cross-Canada tour. At press time we only knew of one incident where they were threatened with murder for playing the "wrong kind" of country music.

Martlet photo by Nicole Staebell

Punk'n drunk'n Duncan

BY KATHRYN SAUNDERS

Sunday Punk in Duncan? You may be more familiar with this event than you think, having passed by the world's biggest hockey stick on your way up island.

For those lucky enough to have stopped at the hockey stick on Sunday Aug. 29, you would have been treated to a stellar performance by Victoria's own Sob Story playing at the "Community Connections Lounge" at the Cowichan Community Centre a.k.a. "Hockey Stick Arena." Sob Story (formerly Horses for Change) is an all grrrlllpunkkickassinyerfacenoneothatpussyshitwhinychickcutsycrap band that is making waves in the local music scene.

Sob Story was the final (and thus headlining) act of the evening. The crowd was warmed up after performances by Ocham's Razor, Hot Hot Hot and Short Pants Romance. Despite the intimidating environment, or perhaps because of it, the punkasschix from Victoria put on a spectacular show. Lead singer Kaila Robertson (whom I predict will soon have quite a following) dazzled the audience with her suave croonings and kickass lyrics. Their new single Crushed was definitely an audience favourite. Megan Stanton put on quite a show wailin' on the guitar while the chick-with-the sticks, Lindsay Sung kept the shit together with some drummin'stylin' unlike Duncan has ever witnessed before. The show ended with a Sob Story's rendition of *Jesse's Girl* that left the audience whoopin' for more. But don't worry you don't have to go to Duncan to see Sob Story. The band, who will be reunited with bassist Tara Matzasusaki, will be performing at the GSpot mid-September with guests TBA. Cover is cheap but the music is fine.

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Ups and downs at the dump

By Dave Clements

Martlet photo by Meesha Chan

I used to work with this guy– let's call him Larry–who liked to listen to only one kind of music: loud.

Henry Rollins, Jane's Addiction, NoMeansNo–he wasn't too particular, as long as it made his fillings vibrate and his ears bleed.

Larry was the guy in the front row of all the Victoria punk shows circa 1992. You could recognize him by his two missing front teeth and the criss-crossed scars on his legs–evidence of his only other true love: mountain biking.

I'm thinking about this as I'm trying to decide whether to continue down the Torpedo Run, or head over to Dave's Dementia, topping it with a few nasty drops on Snakes and Ladders.

The trail names at the Hartland Mountain Biking Park (a.k.a. "The Dump") make me think of Larry because these are the kinds of names he would have given them. The names could just as well be given to songs by Green Day or the Butthole Surfers.

Off my bike now and writing this review, I know one other thing–the people who built these trails are nothing like Larry.

The vast majority of the trials at Hartland were constructed by the good people at the South Island Mountain Bike Society (SIMBS), just before and after the Capital Region District designated it the only legal mountain biking area in the region, in 1997.

Get off your bike at any point in the trail network and you quickly realize that a hell of a lot of work has gone into them.

Singletrack trails have been lovingly carved between trees, and serious drops have been stabilized. Bridges have been built over some sensitive areas, and impressive switchback climbs have been engineered in a manner that would make a city planner proud (that doesn't include the people who designed the new Douglas Street. Those people are stupid).

Martlet photo by Meesha Chan

Signs indicate the names of trails ranging from the pleasant (eg. "Ruffles") to the downright intimidating ("Organ Donor" and "The Skull"). Their difficulty levels are colour-coded. Green means easy, blue is intermediate, and the infamous Black Diamond spells difficult.

One thing you'll find if you choose to ride at Hartland is how friendly the trail users tend to be–definitely not Larry-like. Smiles and greetings are the norm, from the tattooed and pierced riders that run the gamut, to people who look as if they spend most of their time in business suits.

If you're a beginner rider and/or a newcomer to Hartland, my suggestion would be to stay on the green trails as much as possible, and avoid going up. That said, once you've covered the basics, try climbing up the main regional trail, and descending on one of the medium-difficulty descents.

For more experienced riders, the sky's the limit. Fill your boots, because this place has everything–the trails are as technical as you could want them to be, and some of the downhills are absolutely wicked.

Riders of all abilities are welcome at Hartland–provided you observe the proper trail etiquette: a map and sign at the entrance offers suggestions, like staying off the rear brake to preserve the integrity of the trails.

You should also expect to share the trails with everything from horses to nature walkers, and the occasional deer.

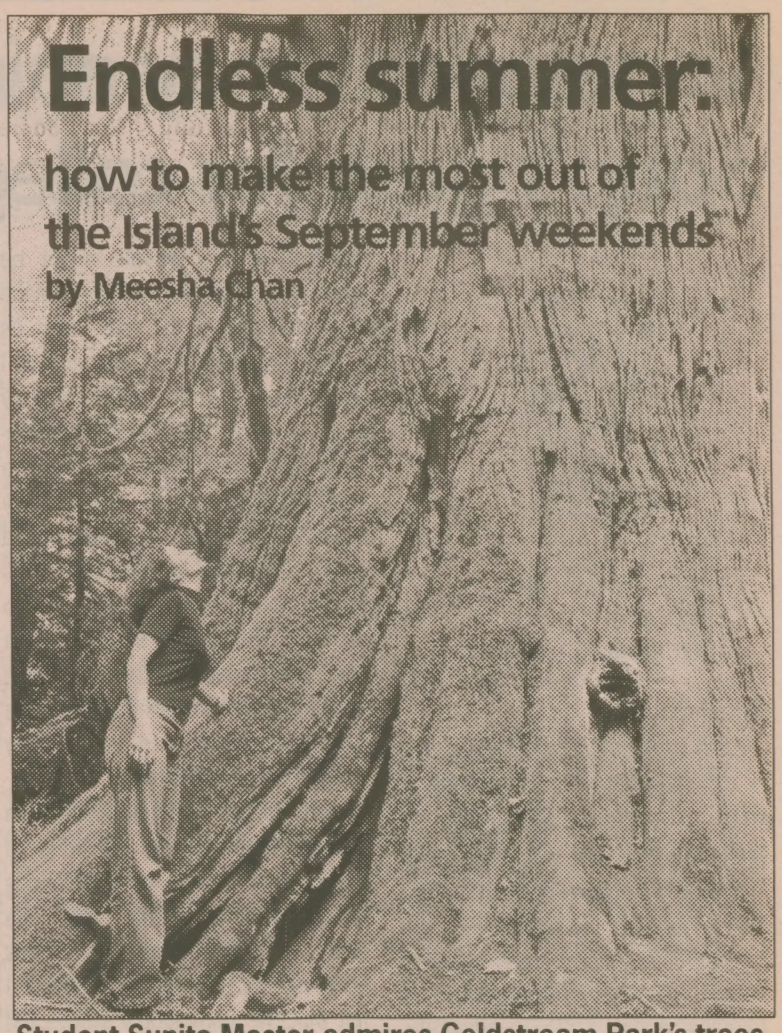
To get to Hartland from UVic take McKenzie east (toward the highways) and turn right on Quadra Street. Stay on Quadra, even after it turns into West Saanich Road, then turn left when you get to Hartland Road (just look for the large Hartland Landfill sign). If you hit Wallace Drive, you've gone too far. Follow Hartland Road to the very end. At the end of Hartland Road, park in the designated lot, just before you enter the landfill.

My congratulations go to the SIMBS members who spend every third Sunday morning of each month lovingly maintaining these trails. They're always looking for help and new members, so call 477-BIKK for information.

Endless summer:

how to make the most out of the Island's September weekends

by Meesha Chan



Student Sunita Master admires Goldstream Park's trees.
Martlet photo by Patti Edgar

goldstream provincial park

Spawning fish are usually why people make the short trip out to Goldstream Provincial Park. In fall, the river clogs up with these tragic creatures following their instincts. Along with the fish are the feeding eagles and scavenging seagulls. If you can take the smell it's worth the trip. If you're up for an energy-draining, but absolutely worthwhile afternoon, Mt. Finlayson–located within the park–is for you. The hike is diverse enough to maintain interest–the aromatic cedar tree canopy, the steep exposed areas and the spectacular view add up to an afternoon well spent. On a clear day (yes, we do have those!) the summit offers amazing views of the Saanich Peninsula. If you are lucky enough once you reach the top, you can sometimes witness the eagle love dance (meaning an intense high-speed circling, swooping, plummeting mating game–really it's quite amazing to watch).

east sooke park: aylard farm entrance

Whether it's for a relaxing and scenic picnic, a relatively easy hike, where petroglyph, seals, otters, eagles and arbutus are highlights, or a brave swim in the ocean, East Sooke Park is a Victoria and area must-do. The hike has many entrances, but the Aylard Farm entrance leads to fabulous views of ocean and cliffs and the roundtrip hike to Beechey Head is only about one and a half hours. If you are more adventurous, the hike continues on, but the terrain is slightly more taxing. To get to East Sooke Park, Aylard Farm entrance, follow East Sooke Road until Becher Bay Road, then follow the signs to the park. The park is dog-friendly (though the beach has dog restrictions from May to September),so as long as you observe doggy etiquette, bring Rover with you. Food and water is also a brilliant idea.

galloping goose regional trail

If you are new to Victoria or to the Galloping Goose, you are in for a treat. The "Goose" can take you from CanWest Mall to the Selkirk Trestle in little time and even less energy. The trail can be accessed from many points, including the Johnson Street Bridge, Swan Lake (take a break here and listen to the fascinating sounds this lake makes) or any point along the Trans Canada Highway. The trip to Thetis Lake (or if you have more energy/time Matheson Lake) is entirely worthwhile because you can reward yourself with a refreshing swim before you get back on your bike to return home. This section of the trail follows along the highway, but is far enough away from traffic to not be bothered by the fumes and direct and easy enough to swim and ride back. The "Goose" is well marked, well maintained and user-friendly (for cyclists, joggers, walkers, rollerbladers and dogs) .

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on-campus

The sixth annual **UVic Earthfest '99** is taking place **Sept. 8,** from 10 to 3 p.m. @ Petch Fountain (the fountain in front of the library). The goal of the festival is to educate students and campus community members about the wide variety of environmental initiatives that exist in the Victoria area. Check out all the different tables & displays.

Earthfest continues with **"Indigenous Whaling in the Pacific Northwest":** a panel discusssion aimed at increasing awareness about all areas of this complex issue. Student Union Building, Multi-purpose room, **September 8**, 6 p.m.

Fiesta Siesta is back on campus this **September 9, 10 & 11**. Check out the variety of vendors & crafters. Petch Fountain, from 9 to 4 p.m.

The UVic Medieval Club SAGM will be held **September 20th** in the Clubsroom in the SUB, B023 @ 7 p.m.

The Maltwood Art Museum & Gallery, in conjunction with UVic Archives and Special Collections, is proud to present **"A History of the Gordon Head Campus Land"** : a chronogical study of the various occupants and uses of the land before it became a modern university campus in 1963. This exhibit is located in the McPherson Library Gallery, from **September 29 to October 29**.

off-campus

Islanders for a nuclear-free Nanoose will hold an informal symposium at the CFMETR base gates this week. The free musical concerts continue Friday (5-8 pm) at the base gates on Powderpoint Road, Nanoose. A Peace and Justice symposium opens on Saturday, **September 4**, at 1 p.m. Local citizens will have the opportunity to express their opinions and plan the next stages in the campaign to make Nanoose waters nuclear free. Call 248-8809, or check out these websites: www.uvss.uvic.ca/nanoosenonoox, www.user.dccnet.com/lagasse/Nuclear_Free_Georgia_Strait/nanoose.html.

The Fernwood Community will be holding its annual celebration, **FERN FEST**, on **Sept. 25.** The festival will be held at the Fernwood Community Square from 1p.m. to 10p.m. There will be music & entertainment by local performers, kids games & activities, community market, and plenty of food and drink. Call 381-1552 for more details.

Interested in playing field hockey? Come out and join the **Rebels Sports Club**. We have both mens and womens teams for various levels. Mens' teams contact Lorne @ 383-1978, Womens' teams contact Shannon @ 478-4914.

Victoria Gay Pride Society wants to hear from you! We're having our annual general meeting at the G-Spot, 1910 Store Street, on **Sunday October 3**, 1999 from 4 to 5 p.m. It will be your first opportunity to make suggestions as to what can be done for Pride 2000!

for sale

For Sale or Trade, a 22' Bayliner Buccaneer sailboat. Fiberglass & sea-worthy. $3,500. Call 889-3361.

volunteers

The **Victoria Women's Sexual Assault Centre** is currently accepting applications for the next crisis line volunteer training in October. Women interested in making a commitment to helping individuals affected by sexual assault and sexual abuse call 383-5545 to obtain an application. Application deadline **September 13th**.

Make a difference in a child's life by becoming a mentor to an elementary school student. Visit your student one hour per week at school & play games, sports, do arts & crafts, bake or pursue other activities. For more info, call Bonnie at Big Brothers & Big Sisters at 475-1117, Ext. 303.

Volunteers wanted (female & male) to work with groups of preteens in a fun-focused program for prevention of drug abuse. One to two hours a week, with training provided. Call Sylvia at the Blanshard Community Centre, 388-7696.

help wanted

Childcare needed for 19 mo. old. Tuesday & Wednesday afternoons. Approx. 8 hours weekly. $10 per hour. Prefer ECE student or grad. First Aid certificate required. Stable, caring person need only apply. Call Annette or Todd for more information @ 595-7407.

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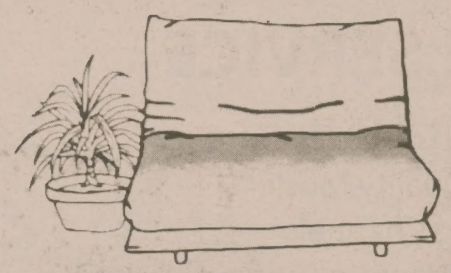

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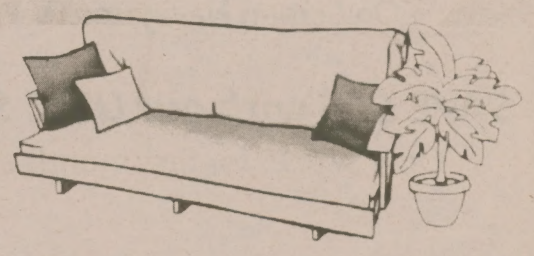

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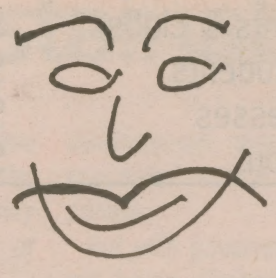

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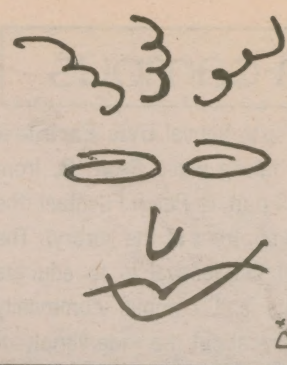

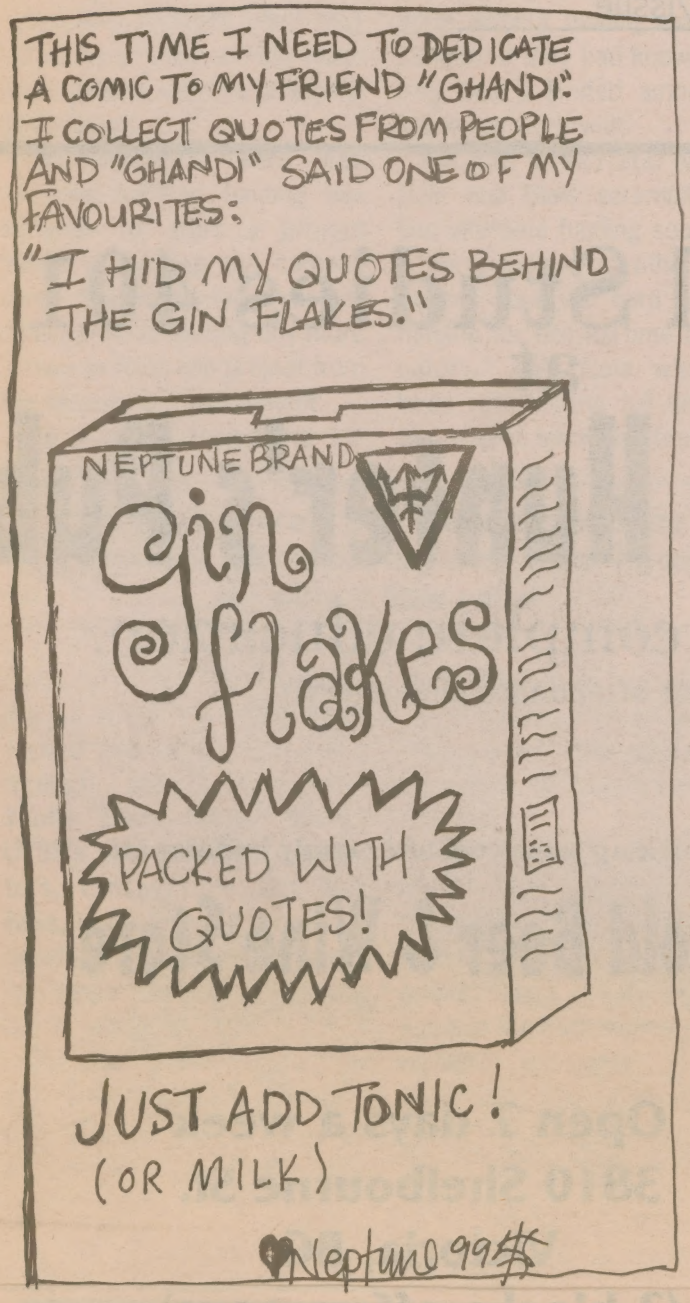
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